



Public Health
Seattle & King County

HEALTHY PEOPLE. HEALTHY COMMUNITIES.

Alonzo L. Plough, Ph.D., MPH, *Director and Health Officer*

August 14, 2002

Chris Thorn
Water Quality Programs Coordinator
Department of Public Works
City of Auburn
25 West Main
Auburn, WA 98001

Dear Mr. Thorn:

Public Health – Seattle & King County has completed the site hazard assessment (SHA) of the Auburn City Maintenance Facility site, as required under the Model Toxics Control Act. A determination of no further action (NFA) at this site has been made by Ecology based on this SHA.

For your information, Ecology will be publishing the results of this, and other recently completed SHAs in the August 27, 2002 Special Issue of the Site Register.

Ecology reserves the right to initiate further investigation at this site where new information is received indicating a potential/actual threat to human health and/or the environment through the release of hazardous substance(s).

Please contact me at (206) 296-4798 if you have any questions/comments regarding this SHA determination of NFA.

Sincerely,



Yolanda King, R.S.
Health & Environmental Investigator II

YK:nm

with levels below the MTCA cleanup levels for VOC's and non-halogenated solvents and suspected for metals and petroleum products in the soil media based on the historical use as a vehicle maintenance facility. Ecology sent an Early Notice Letter regarding the listing of the Auburn City Maintenance Facility site on January 6, 1998.

Yolanda King of the Public Health - Seattle & King County (PHSKC) conducted a site hazard assessment (SHA) visit on April 2, 2002. There was a well casing protruding two feet above the ground. PHSKC contacted Mr. Thorn on April 9, 2002 to acquire information about the well and whether there was more recent test data on the site condition. According to Mr. Thorn, the well was a test well for locating potable water. The well did not produce enough water to become a drinking water source even at a depth of 1300 feet so the well was capped at the surface, but was not officially decommissioned according to Mr. Thorn. Mr. Thorn also mentioned that the Cenex Valley Supply Coop (Cenex) site, listed on the CSCS list, had one groundwater monitoring well installed on the Auburn City Maintenance Facility site and another well on the parcel adjacent to the south. Cenex is currently undergoing remediation and has had the wells sampled for petroleum products to evaluate the extent of its plume since 1997.

On April 12, 2002, PHSKC received a summary of the groundwater data prepared for Cenex by Environmental Resources Management from Mr. Thorn. A portion of the groundwater data summary included data from the monitoring wells on and near the site that was historically occupied by the Auburn City Maintenance Facility. The monitoring well on the site is CMW-19 located in the eastern portion of the site. The other off-site monitoring well in the adjacent parcel is CMW-15 also located in the eastern portion of the parcel.

Annual groundwater samples were collected from the on-site monitoring well, CMW-19, in March or April from 1997 to 2001. The samples were tested for petroleum contaminants. These results are listed in the following table.

CMW-19 (ug/l)	March 1997	March 1998	March 1999	April 2000	March 2001	MTCA Method A cleanup level
Benzene	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	5
Toluene	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	1000
Ethylbenzene	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	700
Xylene	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	1000
Gas	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	800 with benzene, 1000 w/o
Diesel	ND	ND	350	ND	ND	500
Heavy oil	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	500

ND = Not detectable
 NA = Not available

The above table indicated the CMW-19 on-site monitoring well had non-detectable levels for all of the petroleum contaminants with the exception of one groundwater sample collected in March 1999 with a diesel level of 350 ug/l which is below the MTCA Method A cleanup level of 500 ug/l.

Monthly samples were taken in the year of 1997 and then quarterly sampling up to December 2001 for the nearby, but off-site monitoring well, CMW-15 for petroleum contaminants. The highest values for the petroleum contaminants for that year are shown in the table below and the elevated levels above the MTCA cleanup levels are indicated in bold.

SITE HAZARD ASSESSMENT
Recommendation for No Further Action

Site Name/Location (Street, City, County, Section/Township/Range, Facility Site ID):

Auburn City Maintenance Facility (former)
Auburn Way S & SR 18 off ramp
Auburn, WA 98002
Parcel #: 634700-0055
King County
T-21N, R-05E, Sec-18
Ecology Facility Site ID: 91188982
Longitude: 122° 13' 30"
Latitude: 47° 18' 05"
July 31, -2002

Site Description (Include management areas, substances of concern, and quantities):

The Auburn City Maintenance Facility site is a 0.55-acre parcel west of the eastbound State Route Highway 18 off-ramp on Auburn Way South. The property is the former site of the maintenance and operations shop for the City of Auburn vehicles. There is a restaurant across the street to the west and State Route Highway 18 borders the site to the north. Currently, the site has become a portion of the Bicentennial Park. The Auburn City Maintenance Facility site is located in an area with municipal water and sewer systems. There are seven wellheads serving as large, "Group A" water systems within a 2-mile radius of the site with the closest wellhead called City of Auburn Water Division approximately 3,263 feet north of the site. The closest area served by a small, "Group B" water system is 5,132 feet east of the site.

On May 20, 1997, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) received a letter dated May 19, 1997 from Chris Thorn, Water Quality Programs Coordinator for the City of Auburn Department of Public Works, regarding discovery of site contamination on a site owned by City of Auburn. The contamination was discovered during the drilling of a test well (TW-8). Based on samples taken on May 2, 1997, the soil and groundwater were both contaminated with metals and volatile organic compounds (VOC's) based on a memo dated May 15, 1997 regarding TW-8 from Pacific Groundwater Group. No petroleum hydrocarbons were detected in any of the soil and groundwater samples at that time. The levels for the metals and VOC's contaminants in the groundwater samples exceeded the drinking water standards; however the levels did not exceed their respective Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Method A cleanup levels as indicated in the database with the status code "B", indicating "Below Cleanup Levels."

On May 22, 1997, Ecology conducted a site visit and photographed the well-drilling rig in progress at the site. On September 17, 1997, Ecology sent a letter to Mr. Thorn requesting cleanup report by October 1, 1997. No reply was received from Mr. Thorn by October 1, 1997 and as a result, Ecology recommended the Auburn City Maintenance Facility site to be listed on October 7, 1997 on the Confirmed and Suspected Contaminated Sites (CSCS) list.

It was listed January 5, 1998 as a suspected contaminated site with levels above the drinking water cleanup levels, but below MTCA cleanup levels for VOC's, metals, non-halogenated solvents, and petroleum products in the groundwater media. This site was also listed as a suspected contaminated site

CMW-15 (ug/l)	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	MTCA Method A cleanup level
Benzene	103	9.9	7.6	1.5	ND	5
Toluene	0.626	ND	ND	ND	0.802	1000
Ethylbenzene	3.85	ND	8.85	ND	ND	700
Xylene	1.16	ND	ND	1.17	ND	1000
Gas	131000	87.8	93	81	ND	800 with benzene, 1000 w/o
Diesel	867	445	879	587	297	500
Heavy oil	774	ND	NA	NA	ND	500

ND = Not detectable
NA = Not available

As seen in the previous table, CMW-15, an off-site, but nearby monitoring well, showed some elevated levels above the MTCA Method A cleanup levels for some of the petroleum contaminants in earlier years, however, the most recent sampling in 2001 indicated levels below the MTCA Method A cleanup levels.

Although the levels for the metals and VOC's contaminants in the groundwater samples exceeded the drinking water standards, the levels did not exceed their respective MTCA Method A cleanup levels and the wellhead is currently not being used as a drinking water well. In addition, the suspected petroleum contaminants on the site have since been measured to be undetectable or below the MTCA Method A cleanup levels based on the results from the CMW-19 on-site monitoring well.

On the basis of this SHA, the PHSKC's Environmental Health Division recommends this site receives no further action (NFA) under the MTCA, based on its documented insignificant threat to human health and the environment.

